



Developmental Disabilities Newsletter

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NEW UNIVERSITY CENTERS FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Be brave enough to live creatively. The creative is the place where no one else has ever been. You have to leave the city of your comfort and go into the wilderness of your intuition.

You cannot get there by bus, only by hard work, risking and by not quite knowing what you are doing. What you will discover will be wonderful; yourself.

-Alan Alda

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The Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD) announced on October 6, 2005 the award of several new grants and contracts. ADD awarded three grants to expand the Network of University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDDs), one National Training Initiative grant, and a contract to conduct an independent evaluation of the DD Network.

University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities

The fiscal year 2005 appropriations included funds to expand the Network of UCEDDs. After a competitive review of the applications submitted, ADD awarded grants to Universities in three States (1) Florida - University of South Florida/Department of Child & Family Studies; (2) Tennessee - Vanderbilt Kennedy Center/Vanderbilt University School of Medicine; and (3) Texas - Texas A&M University/Department of Educational Psychology.

National Training Initiative

This is a supplemental grant to UCEDDs focusing on critical and emerging needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. ADD awarded the grant to the Oregon Health and Sciences University UCEDD for their project entitled "Making It Real: Participatory Action Research in University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities", which will develop educational modules on participatory action research with the creation of a toolkit by modeling an inclusive approach.

Developmental Disabilities Program Independent Evaluation Project

ADD awarded a two-year contract to Westat to conduct Phase I of the Developmental Disabilities Program Independent Evaluation (DDPIE) Project. The purpose of the project is to examine through rigorous and comprehensive performance-based research procedures the targeted impact of grantee activities funded under the DD Act.

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

The 2005 theme for October's National Disability Employment Awareness Month was "Workers with Disabilities: Ready for Tomorrow's Jobs Today." The theme emphasized that people with disabilities are a vital part of America's workforce. The theme was used in the private sector, federal, state and local governments, and advocacy organizations to plan events and programs that showcase the abilities and skills of job candidates who have disabilities.

Public Law 176, enacted by Congress in 1945, designated the first week in October as "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." President Harry S. Truman designated the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities to carry out the law. Congress changed the name to "National Disability Employment Awareness Month" in 1988. The responsibility for leading the nationwide recognition was transferred to the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) of the U.S. Department of Labor.

*Taken From: U.S. Department of Labor
News Release*

CHANGE IN SUBMITTAL OF FINANCIAL STATUS REPORTS

AD-IM-06-1 informs State Councils on Developmental Disabilities and Protection and Advocacy Systems of the change in submittal of financial status reports from semi-annual to annual. The reporting period will be October 1 through September 30. The annual report must be submitted within 90 days of the end of the period (December 30). The new schedule was effective October 1, 2005.

HURRICANE RELIEF EFFORTS

Administration for Children and Families (ACF) hurricane relief efforts can be found on ACF's web site located at www.acf.hhs.gov. In addition - more information can be located on the Federal Government web site located at www.firstgov.gov.



**ACF Region VI Wishes You
Happy Holidays!**

COMPASSION CAPITAL FUND

On September 29, 2005, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced awards totaling \$49 million through the Compassion Capital Fund (CCF). The awards are designed to help grass roots, faith-based and community organizations enhance their ability to provide a wide range of social services to those in need including the homeless, at-risk youth, rural communities, the elderly and families transitioning from welfare to work.

The first grant involves the CCF Demonstration Program and totals \$17,695,299 for 20 organizations. These groups will serve as intermediaries to help build the capacity of smaller faith-based and community organizations. These awards include \$1.1 million to the OneStar Foundation of Austin, Texas. The second set totals \$15,192,810 for 310 faith-based and community organizations under the CCF Targeted Capacity-Building Program. The target program areas include at-risk youth, the homeless, rural communities, and strengthening marriage. In addition, awards totaling \$15,740,265 were given to continue currently funded CCF programs.

Region VI - CCF Targeted Capacity Building Grants for Marriage			
Organization	City	State	Estimated Award
Alliance for North Texas Healthy and Effective Marriage	Dallas	Texas	\$49,853
Little Union Baptist Church	Shreveport	Louisiana	\$50,000
Merry Heart Guidance Center, Inc.	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	\$50,000
Northside Christian Church	Spring	Texas	\$50,000

Region VI - CCF Demonstration Program Awards			
Organization	City	State	Estimated Award
OneStar Foundation, Inc.	Austin	Texas	\$1,100,000

Region VI - CCF Targeted Capacity Building Grants for At-Risk Youth			
Organization	City	State	Estimated Award
Big Brothers, Big Sisters of El Paso, Inc.	El Paso	Texas	\$50,000
Change Your Life Through Education	Little Rock	Arkansas	\$49,980
Communities in Schools - MCYC	Waco	Texas	\$49,980
Creative Visions Social Services & Consultants, Inc.	Grand Prairie	Texas	\$50,000

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Region VI - CCF Targeted Capacity Building Grants for At-Risk Youth			
Organizations	City	State	Estimated Amount
Diamond Hill United Methodist Church & Mission	Fort Worth	Texas	\$49,413
Hope Cottage, Inc	Dallas	Texas	\$46,214
Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma	Perkins	Oklahoma	\$50,000
New Day Services for Children and Families	Fort Worth	Texas	\$50,000
Our House, Inc.	Monroe	Louisiana	\$50,000
Skillful Learning Center, Inc.	Dallas	Texas	\$50,000
Stronghold Community Development Corporation	Dallas	Texas	\$50,000
Tangipahoa Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council (TADAC)	Hammond	Louisiana	\$50,000
The Extra Mile Region VII, Inc.	Shreveport	Louisiana	\$49,193
Trinity River Mission	Dallas	Texas	\$36,802
Wesley Center for Family and Neighborhood Development	Austin	Texas	\$50,000

Region VI - CCF Targeted Capacity Building Grants for Rural Communities			
Organizations	City	State	Estimated Grant
Center for Fathers and Families of Arkansas	Paragould	Arkansas	\$49,862
Cuatro Puertas	Albuquerque	New Mexico	\$50,000
Doris J's Incorporated	Tangipahoa	Louisiana	\$50,000
Taos Jewish Center	Taos	New Mexico	\$50,000

Region VI - CCF Targeted Capacity Building Grants for the Homeless			
Organizations	City	State	Estimated Grant
Brantley Baptist Center	New Orleans	Louisiana	\$50,000
Brigid's Hope	Houston	Texas	\$50,000
C.O.O.L. Ministries, Inc.	Houston	Texas	\$50,000
Living Witness Community Social Services, Inc.	New Orleans	Louisiana	\$50,000
Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance	Dallas	Texas	\$50,000
Samaritan House, Inc.	Las Vegas	New Mexico	\$50,000
The Harry Thompson Center	New Orleans	Louisiana	\$50,000

GRANTS TO LIVE IN THE COMMUNITY

On September 26, 2005, the Department of Health and Human Services announced \$28.5 million in grants to 17 states to help people of all ages with disabilities or long-term illnesses live in their homes and participate fully in community life. The grants are part of President Bush's New Freedom Initiative, which promotes the goal of community living for individuals with disabilities and long-term illnesses.

The grants awarded will help states and other eligible entities improve their community support systems. Seventeen grants were awarded in two grant categories:

1. Family to Family Health Care Information and Education Center Grants. \$1.6 million to 10 states to establish family run centers that provide information, education and training opportunities for families with children with special health care needs. Previously, HHS has awarded \$2.8 million in grant funds to create 19 such centers across the country.

Region VI Grantee:

Texas Parent to Parent	\$165,000
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2. Systems Transformation Grants. \$26.8 million to 10 states to target key elements critical to developing more comprehensive and integrated long-term support systems. These include better coordination of services that may be managed by different agencies; more services directed by the person receiving them; better funding for community-based living; and emphasis on quality control in community settings.

Region VI Grantees:

Arkansas Department of Human Services	\$2,856,575
Louisiana Department of Health & Hospitals	\$3,022,545
State of New Mexico	\$2,736,384



INCLUSION HANDBOOK

The print version of the Inclusion Handbook (the full title is Inclusion: Creating an Inclusive Environment: A Handbook for the Inclusion of People with Disabilities in National and Community Service Programs) is available at no charge to qualifying programs, courtesy of the Corporation, through The Resource Center. For more information, you may e-mail a request to rc-shipping@etr.org or call Sheryl at 800-860-2684 ext. 142. The PDF file can be found on The Resource Center's list of on-line publications along with other documents on disability inclusion: http://nationalserviceresources.org/resources/online_pubs/index.php#disability.

Additional resources from The Resource Center Library include:

1. Understanding Learning Difficulties: How Difficult Can This Be?
2. Collector of Bedford Street
3. ENABLE People with Disabilities and Computers

AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

The Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Grant Program is a cooperative effort of the Administration on Aging (AoA) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and was developed to assist states in their efforts to create a single, coordinated system of information and access for all persons seeking long term support to minimize confusion, enhance individual choice, and support informed decision-making.



Since 2003, 43 states have received ADRC initiative grants as follows:

Region VI - Arkansas [7/1/2004 - 6/30/2007]:

Arkansas Division of Aging and Adult Services

Arkansas will develop a Community Choice Resource Center that serves older people as well as people with physical or developmental disabilities in a 12 county region of the state.

Region VI - Louisiana [9/30/2003 - 9/29/2006] :

Louisiana Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs

Louisiana will establish a pilot Aging and Adult Disability Resource Center at the Cajun Area Agency on Aging (CAAA) with eight satellite locations in the parishes (counties) in CAAA's planning and service area.

Region VI - New Mexico [July 1/2004 - 6/30/2007]:

New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Care Department

New Mexico will realize the vision of the Resource Center by establishing the core capacity of information and assistance services statewide and phasing in a seamless public interface through community-based Resource Centers.

Region VI - Texas [9/30/2005 - 9/30/2008]:

Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services

The Texas Aging and Disability Resource Center will be strategically placed in three pilot areas that will provide consumers with information, referral and counseling, case management, and Medicaid eligibility determination for public and private pay individuals with long-term care needs.

- Taken From Administration on Aging Website
www.aoa.gov

With This Ring...

On November 17, 2005, the National Father Initiative released its study "With This Ring... A National Study on Marriage in America." The study can be found at: <http://www.fatherhood.org/research.asp>

\$200 Million in Welfare Bonuses

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) awarded \$200 million in High Performance Bonuses from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. The awards to 41 states and the District of Columbia are for transitioning welfare recipients to work and for job retention, increased earnings or meeting other goals of welfare reform.

The 1996 TANF law authorized bonuses to states for annual achievements aimed at strengthening families through work and reforming the welfare system. Awards for each state depend upon its performance in achieving goals and the size of each state's TANF block.

The Region VI awardees are:

Arkansas	\$2,836,643	Louisiana	\$4,551,297
Oklahoma	\$6,202,744	Texas	\$5,885,818

*Taken From: HHS News Release
October 12, 2005*

\$1.3 BILLION LIHEAP FUNDING

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) announced \$1.3 billion to help low-income families pay their heating bills on October 12, 2005. The funds are being sent to states, tribes, and territories through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). With the funds, states can begin assisting low-income households immediately this fall and early winter and help those households currently in need to deal with current higher fuel prices and colder temperatures to come.

More than 4.5 million low-income households across the country receive LIHEAP assistance each year. The program helps eligible families pay for home heating and insulation in winter and cooling their homes in the warmer months.

*- Taken From HHS News Release
October 12, 2005*



FRIENDLY REMINDER

Please remember that the State Councils' and Protection and Advocacy Systems' Program Performance Reports are due by January 1st via OLDC.

Please remember that the Protection & Advocacy Systems' Statement of Goals and Priorities are due by January 1st via OLDC.

\$37 Million in Abstinence Education

On October 11, 2005, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) announced the award of \$37 million to 63 abstinence education grantees. The awards, from the Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE) program, are designed to encourage youth to remain abstinent until marriage. The CBAE program is administered by ACF's Family and Youth Services Bureau, which also administers the Title V Section 510 Abstinence Education Program to enable states to support abstinence education, mentoring, counseling, and adult supervision to promote abstinence from sexual activity, with a focus on those groups which are most likely to bear children out of wedlock.

The Region VI awardees are:

Centers for Youth and Families, AR	\$279,029
Tree of Life Preventative Mental Maintenance, Inc., AR	\$726,164
Operation Turn-Around, LA	\$347,844
Mescalero Apache School, NM	\$426,983
Socorro General Hospital, NM	\$799,883
1st Choice Pregnancy Resource Center, TX	\$435,419
Laredo Independent School District, TX	\$520,725
Longview Wellness Center, TX	\$800,000
Univ. of TX Health Sciences Center at San Antonio, TX	\$213,276

- Taken From: HHS News Release
October 12, 2005

\$41 MILLION TO STATES FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION

On October 25, 2005, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced \$41 million in funding to 50 states, the District of Columbia and the American territories for community-based child abuse prevention programs. Community-based child abuse and prevention grants are provided to agencies designated by the governor of each state. Funds are used to enhance community-based efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect. They also foster the development of child abuse prevention services through state and community-based partnerships and public information activities focusing on the health and positive development of families.

The Region VI awards are listed below:

Arkansas	\$261,333	Louisiana	\$468,198
New Mexico	\$743,054	Oklahoma	\$1,163,240
Texas	\$2,270,054		

- Taken From: HHS News
October 25, 2005

The Region VI Developmental Disabilities Newsletter is
issued 6 times a year by the
Region VI Administration for Children and Families

Look for the next Newsletter in January 2006

2006 Region VI DD Institute

The Region VI ACF DD Team will host the 2006 Developmental Disabilities Institute in conjunction with the Region VI ACF Mid-Winter Conference "Supporting Our Families and Communities..." to be held in January 23 - 27, 2006 in Dallas, Texas.



The Developmental Disabilities Institute will be January 25 - 26, 2005.
Stay Tuned for More Details!

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